

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 03349 292258Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----010698 292300Z /66

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3037
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 03349

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MARR, MILI, XF

SUBJECT: USYG URQUHART'S VIEWS ON RENEWAL OF UNIFIL
MANDATE

1. UPON RETURNING FROM BRIEF TRIP TO VIENNA, URQUHART --
CLEARLY FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY-- CALLED AMB LEONARD
AUGUST 29 TO COMPLAIN OF ISRAELIS OBSTRUCTIONISM OF
UNIFIL EFFORT TO CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE IN SOUTHERN
LEBANON. HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS BEREFT OF NEW IDEAS
REGARDING WAYS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM AND DETERMINED TO
WRITE A BLUNT AND HARD-HITTING REPORT. THIS REPORT, HE
SAID, WOULD BE VERY FRANK IN SPELLING OUT THE LACK OF
COOPERATION FROM THE ISRAELI SIDE. HE SPOKE OF ISRAELI
BAD FAITH IN FAILING TO ACT AS THEY INDICATED THEY WOULD
ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO JERUSALEM AND TEL AVIV. HE
BELIEVES THE ISRAELIS HAVE BEEN VERY SHORT-SIGHTED IN
THEIR ENTIRE APPROACH. URQUHART IS ALSO FED UP WITH THE
LEBANESE BUT BELIEVES THEIR PROBLEM IN BEIRUT IS AT
LEAST A MITIGATING FACTOR UNDERLYING THEIR INEFFECTIVE-
NESS REGARDING SOUTHERN LEBANON.

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2. URQUHART SAID THAT HE PLANS TO WRITE THE SYG'S REPORT
NEXT WEEK AND DOES NOT INTEND TO CIRCULATE IT BEFORE ITS
RELEASE. BARRING UNFORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN NOW
AND THEN, HIS REPORT CLEARLY WILL BE EXTREMELY CRITICAL
OF THE ISRAELIS. WE BELIEVE THAT AT A MINIMUM WE SHOULD
MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE ISRAELIS, BOTH IN NEW YORK AND IN

TEL AVIV, THAT THIS IS THE SITUATION THAT WE ARE FACING.
WHILE URQUHART DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE COUNCIL WILL
REFUSE TO RENEW THE MANDATE, HE ALSO DOES NOT RULE IT OUT.
IN ANY CASE, WE CAN EXPECT A SHARP AND POLEMICAL DEBATE,
IN WHICH THE ARABS WILL USE THIS REPORT TO PIN THE RESPON-
SIBILITY FOR UNIFIL'S PROBLEMS SQUARELY ON ISRAEL AND
THE CHRISTIAN MILITIA. URQUHART TOLD LEONARD THAT THE
NEXT CALLER ON HIS LIST WAS KUWAITI PERMREP BISHARA.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN03349
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780353-0193
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780811/aaaaaixm.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1da61759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1568503
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USYG URQUHART'S VIEWS ON RENEWAL OF UNIFIL MANDATE
TAGS: PGOV, MARR, MILI, XF, IS, LE, UNIFIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1da61759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014